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and are now in safe keeping at Kew. Taylor, in Mackay's "Flora Hibernica," gives Miss Hutchins as the collector of eleven rare mosses in Ireland. In Braithwaite's "British Moss Flora" are several records of mosses collected by Miss Hutchins at "Belfast" and in the "North of Ireland," in the year 1801.

MANCHESTER, ENGLAND

FURTHER NOTES ON JAGERINOPSIS, BROTH.

E. G. BRITTON

Through the kindness of M. I. Theriot, we have received a specimen of *Jagerinopsis scariosa* (Lor.) Broth., named by Brotherus, and collected by Don Jimenez at Alajuela, Costa Rica, in January, 1910. In a letter dated August 28, M. Theriot states that, judging from the figures in the *BRYOLOGIST*¹, *J. scariosa* differs from *J. squarrosa* in having its leaves less spreading, the veins more often double (though occasionally a leaf has a simple vein), the cells more lax at the summit of the leaves; but the sum total of these characters is very slight. The specimens that he sends bear out these statements, but it may be added that the plants are coarser and larger, resembling much more closely *J. brasiliense* (Mitt.) Broth.; the leaves are larger and broader than in *J. squarrosa* E. G. B., much more glossy, and the apical cells longer and narrower and much less porose. The alar cells are very similar in both these species and are less thickened and not yellow in color as they are in *J. Brasiliense* and *J. Ulei* (C. M.) Broth. The costa seems to be variable in all of them. It must be remembered that no fruit has been found on any of these species except *J. Ulei*, as far as we are aware, and it is possible that fruiting plants may show other differences than those at present known. According to Brotherus,² *J. Ulei* has a very peculiar peristome, with short lanceolate thickened teeth, varying in length, and having irregular projections on each joint. The capsules are borne on short stalks from lateral buds above the middle of the stems, and the perichaetial leaves are longer and narrower, with more acuminate points. We hope the fruit of *J. squarrosa* may soon be found either in Florida or in Cuba.

N. Y. BOTANICAL GARDEN, OCTOBER 2, 1918.

"CHATUBINSKIA" A FURTHER CORRECTION

H. N. DIXON

"*Chatubinskia*, *Rehmann*." A still further correction is necessary in regard to this. The name is cited in a *Kew Bulletin* note from T. R. Sim's "Handbook of the Bryophyta of South Africa," where the name is given as above. But the name should properly be "*Chalubinskia*." It is given in honor of Prof. Tytus Chalubinskia, of Warsaw, author of "*Grimmiae Tatrenses*" (War-

¹ 21: 49, Plate 24.

² Engl. & Prantl. Pflfam. fasc. 224, p. 790, fig. 591.

saw, 1882). Mr. Gepp writes that the Czechs have two modified "l's," this one being printed by the Poles like a "t" with the cross oblique, and it is this modified "l" which has given rise to the transcription "Chatubinskia."

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THE AMERICAN RED CROSS WANTS INFORMATION¹

Regarding Supplies of Surgical Sphagnum

GEORGE E. NICHOLS

Sphagnum moss is being used by the Allied armies on an enormous scale as a substitute for absorbent cotton in surgical dressings. The British are using nearly 1,000,000 sphagnum dressings every month. The Canadian Red Cross is making over 200,000 per month. The American Red Cross, in March, 1918, officially adopted sphagnum as a standard dressing material, and it is now being used in many American military hospitals.

As yet, for various reasons, the number of sphagnum dressings that is being called for in this country is comparatively small. The raw material from which these are being made is secured mainly from the Pacific Northwest, where there are large supplies of excellent moss. But it is anticipated that at any moment the call may come for the American Red Cross to furnish sphagnum dressings in immense quantities. In order to be able to do this, raw material must be available in large amounts. Where are we going to get it? To be sure, there is an abundance of it in the Pacific Northwest. But our eastern chapters must not be compelled to depend on this: transportation is too uncertain and too expensive.

Here is the problem! Unquestionably, there is plenty of good surgical sphagnum to supply our needs right here in the east. But there is this difficulty: Until very recently the surgical value of sphagnum was not realized in this country, although it has been used in Germany since 1880. Consequently, nobody has searched for it particularly. Hence, while we know that there is plenty of it scattered about here and there throughout much of the east, we do not know (except for a limited number of localities) where to place our hands on it. Our problem, then, is to locate definitely as many good sources of supply for surgical sphagnum as is possible. And we must do it now! When the demand comes for sphagnum dressings in vast quantities, we must be prepared to provide the goods at once. It will be too late then to start in exploring.

Can you help? There may be enough good moss in your neighborhood to at least satisfy your local needs. You may even find enough to warrant the collection of raw material for shipment to less favored communities. You can only find out by prospecting. Locate the bogs and explore them.

Here are a few pointers. Surgical sphagnum commonly is very local in its occurrence. It grows in bogs, but may be absent from nine out of every ten. The tenth bog may be full of it. Wet, quaky bogs, open and mossy or with scattered grasses and bushes, are best. Dry, firm bogs, bushy or wooded, are least favorable.

¹See note, bottom p. 84.